

Minsi Lake

Continued from page 10

In 2017, Northampton County became a cooperating organization with PFBC's Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program (CHIP), which provides technical assistance in planning and the construction and supervision of an approved project on a waterway open for public fishing.

That same year, PFBC conducted a field survey of the lake basin, which revealed that about 75 percent of the lakebed was lacking adequate fish habitat. PFBC then developed the Minsi Lake Habitat Improvement Plan to address this issue.

The plan calls for 640 large scale habitat structures to be built from stone and lumber in place on the empty lakebed

by PFBC using heavy equipment, and 210 small scale habitat structures to be built outside the lake basin by volunteers using hand tools under PFBC supervision and later submerged in the lake after its refilled with water in 2020.

The CHIP Cooperator is required to collaborate with the community to raise awareness of the need for the project and to raise funds for and purchase all the project materials.

To that end, Northampton County collaborated with Northampton County Junior Conservation School, an award-winning nonprofit youth environmental education program, to establish Friends of Minsi Lake (FOML) as a standing committee under the Conservation School.

In 2017, the Conservation School established by resolution the Friends of Minsi Lake Committee. The purpose of the resolution is to create a coalition to work with the County to chart the course and provide the resources needed to enhance the natural and recreational assets at Minsi Lake and the surrounding Minsi Lake Greenway.

The Conservation School, the County and FOML are committed to the enhancement of in-lake and terrestrial habitats, recreational improvements and accessible opportunities for everyone who visits Minsi Lake and the surrounding greenway.

In turn, Northampton County Council approved by resolution its support for the Conservation School's efforts for the betterment of recreation, tourism and habitat improvement at Minsi Lake and the Minsi Lake Greenway.

Since 2017, FOML has produced print and digital marketing materials and a PowerPoint program and created a Facebook page and a landing page on the Conservation School's website.

The friends group went on to present its PowerPoint program to dozens of sportsmens' clubs and civic organizations; tabled its marketing materials and popup banner at many public events throughout the Lehigh Valley; and raised over \$140,000 in grants and many generous donations from local organizations and individuals.

These funds were used to purchase 1,800 tons of freshly quarried limestone and 1,960 pieces of untreated rough cut hemlock lumber for the project.

The project has transformed the relatively habitat-barren lake basin into one that now has plenty of wood and rock rubble habitat for fish, which will vastly improve the sport fishery at the lake and angling success and recreational enjoyment for the thousands of children, adults and families who fish Minsi Lake each year.

The project was constructed by Fish & Boat Commission staff over a three-week period from July 8-July 22 this year and is among the top three largest cooperative lake habitat improvement projects ever constructed by PFBC.

Among the 640 structures built as part of the project are seven rock framed shoreline deflectors, which provide nearly 200-linear-feet of armoring against wind and wave erosion, which protects the shore and water quality, while providing aquatic microhabitats and easy access for anglers to fish from a solid open shoreline.



Total project material expenses were \$70,992.45, all of which was raised and paid for by Friends of Minsi Lake; not a penny of County taxpayer funds or funds from any County coffers paid for project materials.

All project materials were locally sourced, thus supporting the local economy.

PFBC contributed \$62,638 of professional in-kind services through project planning, construction and supervision. The County contributed over \$4,000 of professional in-kind services through project administration on behalf of the project partnership.

The County continues to provide professional in-kind services to this partnership through grant writing and administration, project and program coordination, and serving on the FOML Committee, including as secretary.

Other FOML Committee members represent Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Martins Jacoby Watershed Association, Northampton County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Northampton County Conservation School, Rep. Joe Emrick, Sen. Mario Scavello, Slate Belt Rising, Upper Mount Bethel Township and Wildlands Conservancy.

The Minsi Lake Habitat Improvement Project is the first step in a comprehensive rehabilitation plan for Minsi Lake and the surrounding Minsi Lake Greenway that calls for \$3 million in improvements to boat launches, fishing piers, picnic areas, trails, restrooms, parking lots, maintenance facilities and ADA Accessible facilities, amenities and pavilions, where non presently exist.

To this end, Northampton County has committed \$500,000, which thus far has been matched by nearly \$500,000 in Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Department of Community and Economic Development grants.

Additionally, as a partner with Northampton County, FOML has already paid \$5,000 for design and engineering of an accessible pedestrian bridge that will span the new spillway at Minsi Lake, creating a nearly three-mile loop trail around the lake for the first time in its 50-year existence; bridge fabrication and installation will be paid for by the County.

The local project partnership has done an outstanding job engaging the community in awareness of the need and funding for the Minsi Lake Habitat Improvement Project through personal engagement and social media, which includes over 1,400 followers on FOML's Facebook page.

Last year, children with the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association Youth Outdoors Adventure Program built ten turtle basking platforms as part of the small

scale habitat structures phase of the project.

The platforms are currently stored at the County Parks Maintenance Facility in Nazareth; they will be anchored in place on the lake, when it is refilled with water next year.

At that same time, youth and adult volunteers alike will build 200 small scale fish habitat structures called porcupine cribs.

These volunteers will build the structures with hand tools in the parking lot at Minsi Lake under PFBC supervision.

Once finished, the cribs will be taken out on the lake by PFBC and submerged on the lakebed at mapped waypoints.

Go here to watch a video on the Lake Habitat Improvement Project <https://youtu.be/o0woldAqcv8>

To learn more about these and other projects, visit the Friends of Minsi Lake Facebook page.



Please Contact Your Church For any Cancellations Due To The Corona Virus

NOTICE

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE
EMAILED ONLY TO
BVTIMES@RCN.COM
BY FRIDAYS NOON

Ackermanville United Methodist
1410 Ackermanville Road, Bangor
Sun 10am Worship. Rev. Sukja Bang
(610) 588-7818,
www.ackermanvilleumc.org

Bangor Church of the Nazarene
150 Bunny Trail, Bangor
Sun 9:30am SS, 10:40am Worship
(Children's Church to grade 2), 5pm
Powerhouse Praise Practice, 6pm Teen
Straight Talk & Small Groups. Kenneth
L. Bean, Pastor
(610) 588-6929

Belfast Bible

483 Belfast Rd., Belfast

Sunday School (all ages) 9:30am, Wor-
ship 10:45am, Evening Service 7pm.
Pastor Michael Yaworski.

Belfast Wesley United Methodist
607 School St., Belfast
Children's SS & Adult SS 9am, Wor-
ship 10am, coffee fellowship following
worship. Pastor Paul Milligan. (610)
746-3652.

Benders Mennonite Church
975 Benders Church Rd., Pen Argyl
Sun Worship service every Sunday at
10:10am; Food Bank 3rd Saturday of
the month 9-11am. 610-863-9114.

Bethel Bible Church of Mt. Zion
**7742 N. Delaware Dr. (Rt. 611),
Martins Creek**
Free Bread Every Saturday, 3eryone
welcome, questions 908-483-8231;
Sunday School 9am, Sunday Morning
Worship 10am. Pastor Rick Tunis, 610-
250-9890. Learn about us online
www.bethelbiblechurchofmtzion.org.

Christ Presbyterian Church of the Slate Belt

332 Kennedy Dr., Bangor
Sun.-Worship 10:30 a.m. Rev Albert Martin
(610)588-4864
e mail - presbyterianbr@frontiernet.net
www.facebook.com/Presbyterybr

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church
703 South Delaware Drive
Mt Bethel, PA 18343
610-588-7056
The Rev. Larry Laine
Worship at 9 AM
Sunday School 10 AM

Clearfield Bible Holiness Church
1502 Bushkill Ctr Rd, Wind Gap
Sun- SS 10:15am, Worship 11:15am &
3pm. Pastor Donald Herrick.
(812) 653-3975.

Community Baptist

Weona Park Center, Pen Argyl
Sun - Bible study 7pm. Separate
class for age 10 & under.

Community Presbyterian
1755 S Delaware Drive, Mt. Bethel
Sun. - SS 9:15am, Worship service
10:30am, Coffee hour on last sunday of
every month following service.
www.mtbethelpresbyterian.org,
(570) 897-6766.

Cross Road Baptist Church
201 Second St., Bangor
Sun- 9:15am Praise Sing, 9:30am SS,
10:45am Worship; Wed- 7pm Prayer/
Bible Study. Rev. Jay VanHorn, Pastor
(610) 588-3966,
www.crossroadbaptistbangor.org

**The Lady's Guild of Our Lady of Vic-
tory R.C. Church, Tannersville** will hold
a Chicken Cordon Blue Dinner on April
28th. We would appreciate your help
in advertising this year's event without
cost to the church.

**EAST BANGOR UNITED METHODIST
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
**136 W. Central Ave.
East Bangor, PA 18013**
Sun., June 7

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Online)
- 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. FREE Dinner
(TAKE-OUT) FOR MORE INFO.,
CONTACT eastbangorumc@gmail.com
Pastor Dave Goss
(610-588-4453) Dial-A-Message
(610-588-3896) www.ebumc.org

Faith Alive Community Church

10 Mechanic St, Wind Gap
Tues- 6pm Ladies Prayer Meeting (2nd
Tues); Wed- 6:30pm Revival Prayer,
7:15pm Adult Bible Study; Sat- 10-2pm
Prayer Stop (1st Sat); Sun- 9:15am
Family Fellowship, 9:30am Interces-
sory Prayer, 10am Worship, 10:45am
Children's Church, Communion at
10:30am (1st Sun). Pastor Matthew
Whistler. (610) 863-6911,
www.faccpa.org

Family Life Community Church

1115 Richmond Rd, Bangor
Wed- Kidz Night Out at The Hub 6:30-
8pm (kids 6 thru 6th gr.); Thurs- Teen
Night Out at The Hub 6:30-8pm (gr.
7-9); Sun- 10am Celebration Service.
Pastor Mike Poppa. 610-588-3736,
www.flccbangor.com.

First United Evangelical

25 S 2nd St., Bangor
Sun. - 7pm Prayer Meeting & Bible
Study; Jan 20- 9am Prayer Meeting,
9:30am Church School, 10:30am Wor-
ship. Pastor Ronald Shipman at
(610) 588-3226

First United Methodist Church

55 N. Third St., Bangor
Worship every Sunday at 11am, Adult
and Children Sunday Schools 9:45am,
Communion first Sunday of month,
Wednesday evening Bible Study
6:30pm. Pastor Chris Hardy
(610) 588-4673.

First United Methodist

19 West & Water St., Wind Gap

Sun.- 9am SS, 10am Worship/Commu-
nion, 11am Fellowship on 1st Sunday of
each month. Pastor John Vidal
(570) 426-0645

Flicksville United Church of Christ
1337 Lower South Main Street
Bangor, PA 18013
Pastor Ken Hess
610-588-4648
www.flicksvilleucc.com
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship at 10:45 AM
All are welcome!

God's Missionary Church
of Northampton
**4965 Nor. Bath Blvd (Rt 329),
Northampton, PA**
Sun- SS 9:30am, Service 10:30 & 7pm,
Youth Service 6:30pm; Wed- Prayer
Meeting 7:30pm. Rev. Rodney Keister.
(610) 262-4412.
http://GMC-N.com

Good Shepherd Evangelical
Lutheran Church,
2904 Church Rd, Martins Creek PA
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 am. Adult
Bible Study Following Worship. Pastor
Louise Williams.
www.goodshepherdmc.com

Grace Lutheran Church
5907 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth
Tue. - 6:30pm Choir; Jan 20- 9am
Service/Communion, 10:15am SS,
10:30am Confirmation/Adult Forum.
(610) 759-9080, www.gracebelfast.org

Grace United Methodist
404 Mountain Ave., Pen Argyl
Sun.- 8:30am Contemporary, 10am
Blended, 10am SS. Rev. J. Timothy
Fisher. (610) 863-4811. www.worshipat-
grace.org

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
1501 Trinity Court, Stroudsburg
Divine Liturgy Sundays 9:30 AM;
Vespers Saturday 6:30 PM. (570) 421-
4455, www.holytrinitypoconos.org.

Hopesprings Community of Faith
301 Market Street, Bangor
Sun-Services 10am. Jonathan Alman-
zar, Lead Pastor. 855-INFO-HOPE.
www.hopespringscommunity.org.

Hope UCC

2nd & Cherry St., Wind Gap
Sun- 10:30am Worship (Communion
1st Sunday of the month). All are wel-
come! SS 9:30 Sunday Morning.
Pastor Emily B. Hall. (610) 863-4474

Living Waters Christian Church
396 Sterling Rd. Unit D, Tobyhanna
Thurs- 6pm Christian Edu Sun- 9:15am
Christian Edu, 10:30am Worship. Rev.
Dr. Jacqueline R. Walters
570-350-4710

Mt. Bethel Church
A Church of the Lutheran Brethren
1270 Belvidere Cr. Rd, Mt. Bethel
Sun.- 8:30am Traditional Service ,

11am Contemporary Service Visit our
website www.mountbethelchurch.org or
call (570) 897-7142 for info.

Our Lady of Good Counsel
436 South 2nd Street
Bangor, PA 18013
Rectory (610) 588-5445
Parish Website: www.ourladystvincen-
t.com Mass Schedule
Weekdays 8AM excluding Thursdays
(See Church Website)
Saturday 4 PM Sunday 8:30 AM
Holy Days (See Church Website)
Saturday Confessions 3:25-3:45 PM

Our Lady of Victory R.C. Church,
Tannersville, PA will hold a Free Com-
munity Dinner on Sunday, July 21st
from 3pm to 4pm. They would appreci-
ate your assistance in advertising this
dinner without cost to the Church.

Portland Baptist Church
601 Delaware Ave., Portland
Sun- Sunday School 9am, Service
10:30am; Wed- Bible Study 10:30 with
Prayer Meeting to follow. Elevator and
rampsWe are handicap accessible with
automatic doors, elevator and restroom.
(570) 897-6866
www.portlandbaptistchurch.com

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
2445 Lake Minsi Dr., Bangor
Saturday Worship: 1st & 3rd 5:30 pm.
Sunday School starts at 8:30am
(September-May)
Sunday Service- 9:45am
Holy Communion is served weekly.
All are welcome!

Richmond United Methodist Church
8538 Delaware Dr, Bangor
Palm Sunday, worship at 10:00 am.
Maundy Thursday, Soup at 6:00 pm
and Worship at 7:00 pm. Good Friday
12:00 pm to 3:00 pm for Personal
Meditation, Devotion and Prayer
Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 am
(followed by breakfast) Easter Tradi-
tional Worship 10:00 am Rev. Ed Van
Arsdale 610-588-7317

Slate Belt Church
1620 Church Rd, Pen Argyl
(Across from the Wind Gap Middle School)
www.slatebeltchurch.com
Sun.- 9:30am SS, 10:30am Worship &
Children's Church (nursery provided)
5:30pm Bible Study, Youth Group & Kids
Program Pastor Steve Rebert
610-863-9274

St. Brigid's Episcopal Church, Nazareth.
Delete Sunday school Holy Eucharist @
9:30 a.m. St. Brigid's Episcopal Church
310 Madison Avenue Nazareth, PA 18064
Phone: 610-746-3910 Fax: 610-746-4515

St. Elizabeth's Parish
300 West Babbitt Ave., Pen Argyl
Sun.- Masses 8am, 9:30am & 11am. Rev.
Msgr. Vincent P. York.
610-863-4777

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran
12 N. Westbrook, Pen Argyl

Sun.- 8:45am SS, 10am Worship/Holy
Communion. (610) 863-4332

St. Joseph's Episcopal
1440 Verona Dr., W. Bangor
Jan 20- Eucharist 11am; Christmas Eve
Service 4pm. Rev Joel Atkinson. Coffee
hour after service.
St. Luke's U.C.C. Belfast
471 Belfast Rd., Nazareth (Belfast)
SS 9am, Worship 10:30am. Rev. Cecelia
Baxter and Rev. Jameson Baxter.
610-759-0244.
www.stlukesuccbelfast.com

St. Mary's Episcopal
340 Lehigh St., Wind Gap
Sun.- service 9am. Coffee hour follows
service. Rev. Joel Atkinson.
Maundy Thursday Service will be held
at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Wind
Gap at 5:30 P.M. Easter Morning Ser-
vice will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal
Church Wind Gap at 9:00 a.m.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran
1422 Church Rd, Pen Argyl
(610) 863-6859
Sunday Worship/Communion
8am and 10:15am;
9am SS
www.stpetersplainfield.com

St. Vincent dePaul
720 Delaware Avenue
Portland, PA 18351
Rectory (610) 588-5445
Mass Schedule Weekdays (at OLCG)
Saturday 6 PM Sunday 10:30 AM
Holy Days (See Church Website)
Saturday Confessions 5:40-5:50 PM

The Pentecostal Christian
Church the Truth
(Iglesia Pentecostal La Verdad)
4 Jory Ave Pen Argyl
Sun.- Prayer 14- Sunday School
(Escuela Dominical) 12 noon, Praise &
Worship (Cuho Evangelistico) 1pm.

Temple Israel of the Poconos
Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue
660 Wallace Street, Stroudsburg
Sabbath Services: Friday evening 7pm
followed by a Traditional Oneg Shabbat.
Saturday morning 9:30am followed by a
traditional Kiddush. Dr. Sandra Alfonsi
570-223-7062.

Trinity United Church of Christ
632 S Delaware Dr. Mt Bethel Pa
18343 Sunday Worship 10:30 am
SS and Confirmation 9:00 am
Rev. Rodney Wells pastor

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran
404 Broadway, Bangor
Thur - Christian Ed 6:30pm, Choir
7:30pm; Jan 20- SS 9am, Worship/
Communion 10am. Pastor Laine. (610)
588-2023, www.tlcbangor.com.

Zion Presbyterian Church
Water St., Wind Gap
Sun.- Rev. Albert Martin will be speak-
ing at the 9:30am service. Children SS
during the service. Visitors welcome.
(610) 863-8896.